

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF
HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4568) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Chairman, as the House considers our fiscal year 2005 appropriations measure for the Department of the Interior, I rise to draw the House's attention to Haskell Indian Nations University, which is located in Lawrence, Kansas, within my congressional district.

Funded through the Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs, Haskell was authorized by Congress, in partial fulfillment of treaty and trust obligations, to provide higher education to federally recognized tribal members. Haskell seeks to achieve this goal through the provision of tuition-free education, culturally sensitive curricula, innovative services and a commitment to academic excellence. Haskell

has a program participation agreement with the U.S. Department of Education for eligible students to receive Pell Grants and other federal aid, such as direct student loans. This land grant institution is an intertribal university serving approximately 1,000 students representing 160 tribes from 30 states.

Unfortunately, however, federal support for Haskell has not kept pace with its obligations. Since 1993, Haskell's overall funding allocation has risen by only 27 percent, while the institution has made the transition from a junior college to a 4-year university, with its first baccalaureate degrees granted in 1997.

This table depicts Haskell's funding history over the past 10 years:

EXPENDITURES (TOTAL OBLIGATIONS) AT END OF FISCAL YEAR

Fiscal year	Allocation	Total	Personnel	Program
1993	\$7,167,553	\$7,180,049.45	\$5,943,985.00	\$1,236,064.45
1994	7,306,000	6,955,104.47	6,011,310.13	943,794.34
1995	7,511,380	7,537,328.30	5,866,751.23	1,670,577.07
1996	7,506,000	7,509,996.36	6,125,067.59	1,384,928.77
1997	7,924,500	7,889,782.31	6,276,850.36	1,612,931.95
1998	8,107,000	8,183,821.97	6,305,264.51	1,878,557.46
1999	8,267,000	8,195,109.40	6,877,615.69	1,317,493.71
2000	8,511,000	8,718,986.20	7,472,113.79	1,246,872.41
2001	8,776,649	8,756,727.25	7,748,714.10	1,008,013.15
2002	9,050,100	8,797,514.95	7,679,254.41	1,118,260.54
2003	9,141,100	9,017,657.02	7,887,447.54	1,130,209.48

Mr. Chairman, while Congress traditionally has not provided line item allocations of funds for institutions administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, I hope that a review of these statistics will bring to the attention of the Department of the Interior and the Office of Management and Budget the need to significantly enhance Haskell's funding levels in the upcoming fiscal year.

Haskell has a unique and compelling history. Twenty-two American Indian children entered the doors of a new school in Lawrence, Kansas, in 1884 to begin an educational program that focused on agricultural education in grades one through five. Today, Haskell continues to serve the educational needs of American Indian and Alaska Native people from across the United States. For more than 117 years, American Indians and Alaska Natives have been sending their children to Haskell, and Haskell has responded by offering innovative curricula oriented toward American Indian/Alaska Native cultures.

The doors to Haskell officially opened under the name of the United States Indian Industrial Training School. Enrollment quickly increased from its original 22 to over 400 students within one semester's time. The early trades for boys included tailoring, wagon making, blacksmithing, harness making, painting, shoe making, and farming. Girls studied cooking, sewing and homemaking. Most of the students' food was produced on the Haskell farm, and students were expected to participate in various industrial duties.

Ten years passed before the school expanded its academic training beyond the elementary grades. A "normal school" was added because teachers were needed in the students' home communities. The commercial department, the predecessor of the business department, opened in 1895 with five typewriters. It is believed that the first touch-typing class in Kansas was taught at Haskell.

By 1927, high school classes were accredited by the state of Kansas, and Haskell began offering post high school courses in a variety of areas. Part of Haskell's attraction was not only its post high school curriculum

but also its success in athletics. Haskell football teams in the early 1900's to the 1930's are legendary. And even after the 1930s, when the emphasis on football began to decrease, athletics remained a high priority to Haskell students and alumni. Today, Haskell continues to pay tribute to great athletes by serving as the home of the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame.

Industrial training became an important part of the curriculum in the early 1930s, and by 1935 Haskell began to evolve into a post high school, vocational-technical institution. Gradually, the secondary program was phased out, and the last high school class graduated in 1965.

In 1970, Haskell began offering a junior college curriculum and became Haskell Indian Junior College. In 1992 the National Haskell Board of Regents recommended a new name to reflect its vision for Haskell as a national center for Indian education, research, and cultural preservation. In 1993, the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs of the U.S. Department of the Interior approved the change, and Haskell became "Haskell Indian Nations University."

Mr. Chairman, today, Haskell has an average enrollment of over 1,000 students each semester. Students represent federally recognized tribes from across the United States and are as culturally diverse as imaginable. Students select programs that will prepare them to enter baccalaureate programs in elementary teacher education, American Indian studies, business administration, and environmental science; to transfer to another baccalaureate degree-granting institution; or to enter directly into employment. Haskell continues to integrate American Indian/Alaska Native culture into all its curricula. This focus of the curriculum, besides its intertribal constituency and federal support through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, makes Haskell unique and provides exciting challenges which the Federal Government must assist them further in meeting in the years ahead.

CORRECTING PREVIOUS
STATEMENT ON GOLDEN TEMPLE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month I made a statement congratulating the Council of Khalistan on its commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the massacre of Sikhs at the Golden Temple in June 1984. At that time, I intended to insert the Council of Khalistan's flyer into the RECORD. I even said that I was including it in the RECORD. Somehow, it did not get included. Therefore, I would like to place it in the RECORD at this time.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOLDEN TEMPLE
MASSACRE, JUNE 3-6, 1984

SIKHS MUST HAVE FREEDOM IN SOVEREIGN
HOMELAND

"If the Indian government attacks the Golden Temple, it will lay the foundation stone of Khalistan."—Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale.

From June 3 throughout 6, 1984, the Indian government brutally invaded the Golden Temple and 150 other Gurdwaras around Punjab. Over 20,000 people were killed in these attacks, including such Sikh leaders as Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who was the strongest spokesman for Sikh rights and Sikh freedom. More than 100 young boys, ages 8 to 13, were taken outside into the courtyard and asked whether they supported Khalistan, the independent Sikh homeland. When they answered with the Sikh religious incantation "Bole So Nihal," they were summarily shot to death. The Guru Granth Sahib, the Sikh scripture, handwritten in the time of the ten Sikh Gurus, was shot full of bullet holes by the Indian military. Sant Bhindranwale warned that if the Indian government invaded the Golden Temple, it would "lay the foundation stone for Khalistan" and it did.

HOW CAN THIS HAPPEN IN A DEMOCRACY?

"The Indian government, all the time they boast that they are democratic, that they are secular. They have nothing to do with a

democracy, nothing to do with a secularism. They just kill Sikhs to please the majority.”—Narinder Singh, spokesman for the Golden Temple, on NPR August 1997.

U.S. Representative Dana Rohrabacher (R-Cal.) has said that for the minorities such as Sikhs and Kashmiris “India might as well be Nazi Germany.”

A PATTERN OF REPRESSION AGAINST THE SIKH NATION

Over 250,000 Sikhs murdered since 1984.

52,268 Sikh political prisoners, according to the Movement Against State Repression

More than 50,000 Sikhs disappeared in Indian government’s secret cremations. Their remains have never been given to their families.

Indian government paid over 41,000 cash bounties to police to kill Sikhs

Gurnihal Singh Pirzada, a senior officer in the IAS, arrested after allegedly being seen at a meeting of gathering of Punjab “dis-sidents.” Pirzada denies attending such a meeting, but points out that it would not be illegal if he did.

Jaswant Singh Khalra kidnapped by police and murdered in police custody after exposing Indian policy of arresting Sikhs, torturing them, murdering them, cremating the bodies, as “unidentified.”

Surdev Singh Kaunke, former Jathedar of the Akal Takht, highest Sikh religious leader, murdered by police official Swaran Singh Ghotna, who has never been punished.

The Indian newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid the late Governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, the equivalent of \$1.5 billion to foment and support covert state terrorist activity in Punjab and Kashmir.

This is the state of freedom in Punhap, Khalistan under Indian rule.

“The mere fact that they have the right to choose their oppressors does not mean they live in a democracy.”—Rep. Edolphus Towns (D-NY).

THE REPRESSION CONTINUES WHILE INDIA PROCLAIMS ITS SECULARISM AND DEMOCRACY

Half a million Indian forces have been sent to Punjab, Khalistan to subdue the freedom movement there. Another 700,000 are deployed in Kashmir. They join with the police in carrying out the kinds of atrocities described above. India calls this “protecting its territorial integrity.”

In March 2000 in the village of Chithisinghpura, 35 Sikhs were massacred. Two studies of this massacre, one by the International Human Rights Organization, based in Ludhiana, and the other conducted jointly by the Punjab Human Rights Organization and the Movement Against State Repression, concluded that the massacre was the work of Indian forces, a conclusion supported by reporter Barry Bearak in the December 31, 2000 issue of the New York Times Magazine. In another village in Kashmir, Indian troops were caught red-handed trying to set fire to several Sikh houses and the local Gurdwara. Sikh and Muslim villagers joined together to stop this atrocity before it could be carried out.

Sikhs ruled Punjab as an independent, secular country from 1765 to 1849. Sikhs have never accepted the Indian constitution. At the time of the transfer of power, Sikhs were equal partners who were to receive sovereignty along with Muslims and Hindus. When the Indian constitution was adopted in 1950, no Sikh representative signed it and no Sikh representative has signed it to this day.

On October 7, 1987, the Sikh Nation formally declared its independence from India, naming their new country Khalistan. Since then, Khalistan has been under illegal occupation by the Indian government and its forces.

“If a Sikh is not for Khalistan, he is not a Sikh.”—Professor Darshan Singh, former Jathedar of the Akal Takht

Unfortunately, Sikhs are not the only victim of India’s brutal tyranny.

India has murdered over 300,000 Christians in Nagaland since 1947, more than 85,000 Kashmiri Muslims since 1988, and tens of thousands of other minorities

Australian missionary Graham Staines and his two young sons were brutally murdered by being burned to death while they slept in their jeep by a mob of Hindu militants affiliated with the militant, pro-Fascist Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) who chanted “Victory to Hanuman,” a Hindu god.

An American missionary from Pennsylvania, Joseph Cooper, was expelled from the country after being so severely beaten by RSS goons that he had to spend a week in the hospital.

In January 2003, an American missionary and seven other individuals were attacked.

Christian schools and prayer halls have been attacked and destroyed.

A Christian religious festival was broken up by police gunfire.

In March 2002, between 2,000 and 5,000 Muslims were brutally murdered in Gujarat. India’s National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), an official body, found evidence in the killings of premeditation by members of Hindu extremist groups and complicity by Gujarat state officials. A police officer confirmed to an Indian newspaper that the massacre was pre-planned by the government.

The most revered mosque in India, the Ayodhya mosque, was destroyed by Hindu mobs affiliated with the BJP and a Hindu temple was built on the site.

The states of Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Orissa have all passed bills barring religious conversions.

DEMOCRACIES DON’T COMMIT GENOCIDE; SUPPORT SELF-DETERMINATION IN SOUTH ASIA

The right to self-determination is the essence of democracy. Please urge your representatives to support self-determination for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the states seeking their freedom. Demand a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence and an end to foreign aid to India until human rights are respected.

INTRODUCTION OF THE “IMPORTATION OF SAFE FOOD ACT OF 2004”

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to announce the introduction of the “Importation of Safe Food Act of 2004.” The Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002 (the Act) imposes new requirements intended to protect U.S. consumers from adulterated food products. Unfortunately, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, in attempting to comply with the Act, has overstepped its authority in a manner that could lead to the unintended consequences of raising consumer prices, increasing job losses, and threatening legitimate U.S. businesses. This legislation would prevent the loss of these important jobs.

A proposed FDA regulation is scheduled for full enforcement on August 13, 2004, and would require that confidential manufacturing facility registration numbers appear on all prior

notices submitted to the FDA as a condition of food import. This requirement would be impossible to meet for lawful third-party importers who do not deal directly with the manufacturers and thus have no means of obtaining the confidential numbers. The adversely-affected importers include food wholesalers distributing in the secondary marketplace or reimporting American-manufactured products, and manufacturers bringing competitors’ articles into this country for sampling or testing.

The requirement also would create domestic job losses and raise consumer prices. For example, it is estimated that thousands of jobs within the secondary market industry alone could be at stake. In addition, numerous freight forwarders, truckers, and warehousemen who work in conjunction with the industry likely would face similarly substantial economic hardship. Moreover, the secondary market results in cost savings to consumers ranging between 10 and 15 percent. That is a major benefit to the American economy that cannot be discounted.

That is why we are introducing the Importation of Safe Food Act of 2004. This bill would clarify that (1) the notice must contain the name and address of the manufacturer and that the importer must identify those parties required to be shown by whatever means available to it; and (2) food articles may not be automatically rejected solely on the basis of an incomplete notice unless the Secretary is presented with additional evidence that the article poses a threat to the health of an animal or human. It also would give the government more authority in regulating food facilities so that tainted foods cannot enter the Nation’s food supply.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on rollcall No. 279, “no” on rollcall No. 280, “yes” on rollcall No. 281, “yes” on rollcall No. 282, “yes” on rollcall No. 283, “yes” on rollcall No. 284 and “yes” on rollcall No. 285.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT NED NEUSTROM OF JOHNSON COUNTY MED-ACT

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Edward “Ned” Neustrom of Johnson County Med-Act, who died unexpectedly of cardiac arrest while on duty on Friday, June 18th.

Lieutenant Neustrom was found by firefighters at the emergency response station located at 13801 Switzer in Overland Park, KS, where he was assigned. Neustrom was a respected paramedic and departmental mentor with more than 25 years experience with